

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DONOHO SCHOOL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Donoho School in Anniston, Alabama, on the occasion of the celebration of the school's 40th anniversary on Friday, May 7, 2004.

The Donoho School is an independent, college-preparatory day school in Anniston, Alabama, enrolling 366 students in pre-kindergarten through grade twelve. It was founded as a secondary institution in 1963 and chartered under the name of The Anniston Academy. In 1976, the name was changed to The Donoho School in recognition of Mrs. Harriet Wallis Donoho, a founder and benefactor of the school.

The Donoho School's mission is to provide a quality college-preparatory education to capable, highly motivated students. It is committed to the development of the total child by providing a challenging curriculum in an atmosphere conducive to good citizenship, personal integrity and devout religious principles. The school's academic, athletics, fine arts and other student activities are designed to fulfill this commitment.

As the Congressional representative for Anniston, Alabama, I have long been aware of the outstanding reputation The Donoho School holds in the local community and surrounding areas. I am proud to salute this fine school on its 40th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING DOROTHY NORIEA

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy Noriea, of Mandeville, Louisiana. Dorothy has been named the Louisiana Breast Cancer Task Force's Board Member of the Year.

After being diagnosed with breast cancer in the summer of 1998, Dorothy underwent a lumpectomy, mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiation and completed treatment in 1999. Dorothy has since served as a member Louisiana Breast Cancer Task Force, an organization which puts forth an immeasurable amount of effort in working towards a cure for breast cancer.

In addition to her work with the Louisiana Breast Cancer Task Force, Dorothy also serves on the Board of the Mandeville PTA, the Greater Covington Junior League, the Beau Chene Garden Club, and the Presbyterian Women's Club. Her invaluable service to the community shows her to be selfless and full of strength and courage.

I come to the floor of the House of Representatives today to personally commend and honor Dorothy Noriea on being named the Louisiana's Breast Cancer Task Force's Board Member of the Year. I am honored that we as members of the U.S. Congress are able to recognize a woman who has been through so

much in her own personal life yet still manages to give so much to the community. She deserves tremendous acknowledgement and appreciation for all that she has contributed to the citizens of Louisiana.

Again, I would like to thank Dorothy Noriea for so honorably representing the state of Louisiana.

COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the victims of one of history's most terrible tragedies, the Armenian Genocide.

April 24, 1915 is remembered and solemnly commemorated each year by the Armenian community and others throughout the world. On that day, Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders were arrested in Constantinople, taken to the interior of Turkey and murdered. In the years that followed, Armenians living under Ottoman rule were systematically deprived of their homes, property, freedom, dignity, and ultimately their lives. By 1923, 1.5 million Armenians had been massacred and 500,000 more had been deported.

The Armenian Genocide is a historical fact, despite the efforts of some to minimize its scope and deny its occurrence. Many of the survivors of the genocide came to the United States, where they and their descendants have contributed to our society in countless ways. In my district, there is a significant population of Armenian survivors and their families that showed heroic courage and a will to survive. With faith and courage, generations of Armenians have overcome great suffering and proudly preserved their culture, traditions, and religion and have told the story of the genocide to an often indifferent world. As Members of Congress and people of conscience, we must work to overcome the indifference and distortions of history, and ensure that future generations know what happened.

Mr. Speaker, genocide is the most potent of all crimes against humanity because it is an effort to systematically wipe out a people and a culture as well as individual lives. Denying that genocide took place when there are recorded accounts of barbarity and ethnic violence is an injustice. This was a tragic event in human history, but by paying tribute to the Armenian community we ensure the lessons of the Armenian genocide are properly understood and acknowledged. I am pleased my colleagues and I have this opportunity to ensure this tragedy is remembered.

CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day. For 56 years, Israel has been

forced by its neighbors and many in the international community to fight for the right to exist. As the only country in the region with a popularly elected democracy, Israel remains our staunchest ally.

In the face of continuous terror, citizens of Israel try to lead a normal life. However, they remain haunted by acts of violence that they have witnessed. Sadly, many have felt the anguish of knowing someone who has been murdered. Many are afraid to ride buses, sit in cafes, or visit outdoor markets. The pursuit of happiness, often taken for granted in the United States, is summarily abridged by those that seek to destroy Israel.

The majority of Israeli citizens desire peace with their neighbors. They want to be free from terrorist attacks and free from the constant fear that plagues them. On this day, Yom Ha'Atzmaut, we must pledge to work to further the goal of peace in the Middle East and ensure the continued existence of the lone representative democracy in the region, our friend and ally, Israel. Let us not forget that this is a day of celebration for Israelis who commemorate the establishment of Israel with great joy. Against all odds, the fledgling Jewish State has survived and grown into a stable, economically strong country.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL ETHNIC COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to pay tribute to an outstanding humanitarian organization, the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations. NECO, as it is better known, celebrates its 20th anniversary this year.

NECO's mandate is simple but powerful, universal in scope and humanitarian in purpose. It seeks to preserve ethnic diversity, promote equality and tolerance, combat injustice and bring about harmony and unity among all peoples.

Since its founding in 1984 this multi-ethnic coalition has taken leadership in the promotion of diversity and has sponsored programs, activities and educational initiatives designed to break through the walls of ethnic misunderstanding and ignorance.

I am especially pleased and proud in this tribute to acknowledge the inspirational leadership and tireless work of NECO's Chairman and a good friend, William Denis Fugazy. Bill has been the leader of NECO throughout these 20 years and in that role has become one of our nation's most respected humanitarian leaders and a dedicated visionary, who constantly works to promote brotherhood and respect between all citizens.

NECO's most distinct program is familiar to many of you and to the general public. Each year since 1986, NECO has awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. It honors Americans of various ethnic origins for their outstanding contributions to this country. It is an award that has been bestowed on all American Presidents since 1986 as well as Nobel Prize winners, leaders in entertainment, business and science and a number of members of Congress on a bi-partisan basis. I was proud